

Amendments to the Drawings:

No amendments are made to the Drawings herein.

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 16, 17, 21 and 27 are amended and Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are cancelled. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof, is earnestly requested.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 3, 6, 10-13, 19, 20 and 22-27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3, 6, 10, 11 and 27 have been so rewritten in independent form. Claims 7, 16, 17 and 21 have been amended such that all dependent claims now depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of allowable Claims 3, 6, 10, 11 or 27. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 have been cancelled. As such, Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable for as indicated by the Examiner.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims, namely Claims 3 and 6-27, are patentable over the references of record, and earnestly solicits allowance of the same.

Respectfully submitted,



Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr., Reg. No. 33,558
Todd M. Oberdick, Reg. No. 44,268
ST. ONGE STEWARD JOHNSTON & REENS LLC
986 Bedford Street
Stamford, Connecticut 06905-5619
(203) 324-6155
Attorneys for Applicant